

EFFECTIVE

June 1, 2023.

Subject(s)

FOM 721, Foster Care

As defined in MCL 712A.13a, a relative is defined as an individual who is at least 18 years of age and related to the child within the fifth degree by blood, marriage, or adoption, including the spouse of an individual related to the child within the fifth degree, even after the marriage has ended by death or divorce, the parent who shares custody of a half-sibling, and the parent of a man whom the court has found probable cause to believe is the putative father if there is no man with legally established rights to the child.

A relative may also be an individual who is at least 18 years of age not related to a child within the fifth degree by blood, marriage, or adoption but who has a strong positive emotional tie or role in the child's life or the child's parent's life if the child is an infant, as determined by the department or, if the child is an Indian child, as determined solely by the Indian child's tribe.

Grammatical changes and hyperlink additions were made.

Reason: To align with Mich Compiled Law MCL 712A.13a

FOM 901-7, Service Types and Living Arrangements

Unrelated Caregiver

An unlicensed individual, not related to the child by blood, marriage, or adoption who does not meet the relative definition in [FOM 722-03B, Relative Engagement and Placement](#), meets the criteria for an unrelated caregiver service type and living arrangement. Putative parents are included in this service type.

Reason: To align with Mich Compiled Law MCL 712A.13a

PA 74 of 1989

PA 116 of 1973

PA 201 of 2008

PA 202 of 2008

PA 218 of 2007

PA 238 of 1975

PA 280 of 1939

PA 288 of 1939

**MANUAL
MAINTENANCE
INSTRUCTIONS**

Changed Items ...

[FOM 721](#)

[FOM 901-7](#)